Newspapers by ancestry
https://www.newspapers.com/image/469316068/

Edmonton Journal (Edmonton, Alberta, Canada) · Thu, Dec 8, 1949 · Page 26
Downloaded on Mar 5, 2026

University of Toronto and lives at 10138 118 ave.

was remanded by Magistrate McCulla to Dec. 12.

R.C.M.P. To Honor Pioneer At Funeral Service Saturday

Funeral services for Dr. Edward Ainslie Braithwaite, 87, pioneer Canadian physician and former chief coroner for Alberta, will be held at All Saints Cathedral Saturday at 2:30 p.m. Dean A. M. Trendell will officiate and members of the R.C.M.P. Edmonton detachment will serve as active pallbearers.

Dr. Braithwaite died in hospital here Wednesday afternoon.

Outstanding in Canadian medical circles, Dr. Braithwaite served as chief coroner for Alberta for 22 years. He was a coroner for nearly 50 years, having first assumed that post with the old North West Territories government.

Dr. Braithwaite was Edmonton's first medical health officer, a position he held from 1892 to 1907. While engaged in provincial medical work, he took over duties as medical inspector of all hospitals in the province. This post was relinquished in 1939.

Dr. Braithwaite was born in Aine, Yorkshire, on Feb. 16, 1862. A brother was the late General Sir Walter P. Braithwaite, who rose to become second in command of the British imperial forces.

At the age of seven, Dr. Braithwaite moved to Jersey where he received his early education. He began his medical studies at Westward Ho United Service College in Devonshire.

Studied With Kipling

Through his college association he was believed to be the last surviving link with England's great poet, Rudyard Kipling. He shared a study with Kipling and two other students. On one occasion he saved Kipling from a beating by the school bully.

He continued studies at King's College medical school in London in 1879, and left for Canada in February, 1884, where he joined the Royal North West Mounted Police as a hospital sergeant.

He was in that service longer than any other man. During the Riel Rebellion he was an eye-witness at the hanging of Louis Riel at Regina in 1885.

In 1892 Dr. Braithwaite came to Edmonton, where he was named acting assistant police surgeon. In 1911 he was appointed honorary surgeon with the force, a post he held until Dec. 31, 1931.

Dr. Braithwaite served the cause of medicine with untiring devotion. He was for many years an Alberta delegate to the dominion hospital council, and for 11 years he was a member of the council.

Chief Hospital Inspector

He was chief medical inspector of hospitals from 1926 to 1928, and chief coroner from 1926 to 1948. He served as advisor to the government Metis rehabilitation branch, from 1939 to 1948, and was first Edmonton surgeon for the Canadian National Railways.

A member of St. John Ambulance Association, Dr. Braithwaite for a lengthy period held the post of provincial commander of the order.

Dr. Braithwaite's death came as a shock to his many associates in government, R.C.M.P. and medical circles.

From the provincial government, Dr. Malcolm R. Bow, deputy minister of health, paid tribute to his outstanding service:

"He was unexcelled as a coroner in Alberta. He made an outstanding contribution in assisting hospital boards with difficult problems, especially during the early days.

"He possessed those rare personal gifts that endeared him to his colleagues and a host of friends throughout the province. He was known as the beloved physician to thousands."

Col. A. T. Belcher, assistant commissioner, "K" Division, R.C.M.P., said: "The force is very sorry to hear of his death. He had long served as a distinguished member, later as honorary surgeon."

Dr. A. C. McGugan, superintendent of the University Hospital: "Dr. Braithwaite was a very close friend for many years. His death comes as a great personal shock. I have had every admiration both for Dr. Braithwaite personally and for his distinguished work."

At the time of his death, Dr. Braithwaite was a past grand master of the Masonic Order for the North West Territories and was a member of the Scottish Rite of the order.

Besides his widow, he is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Colles and Mrs. Peton, both in England; two nieces, Mrs. S. Shideley, Aurora, Ont., and Mrs. T. Stoker, Montreal. A second brother, A. Douglas Braithwaite, who died several years ago, was general manager of the Bank of Montreal.

RCMP funeral honor

Clipped By:
kittycornerskeptic
Mar 5, 2026

Copyright © 2026 Newspapers.com. All Rights Reserved.